

# NEWS FROM ED MARKEY

**United States Congress**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ELOQUENT BLAIR LEAVES KEY QUESTIONS UNANSWERED**

**WASHINGTON, DC-** After British Prime Minister Tony Blair's address to a joint session of the United States Congress, Representative Edward Markey (D-MA), a senior member of the Subcommittee on Intelligence and Counter-Terrorism of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, released the following statement:

"The Prime Minister is one of the most eloquent leaders ever to address the U.S. Congress, but he left unaddressed the questions that the American public wants answered.

"Did Britain rely on information about Saddam attempting to purchase uranium from Africa which was false?

"If you have other information about Iraqi attempts to purchase uranium from Africa which you have yet to disclose to the United States, what is it?

"What evidence is there of the reliability of the African uranium information on which you rely?

"Right now, with American and British soldiers in the line of fire, families in Idaho, Nevada or Massachusetts find very unsatisfying a call for unquestioned faith in a vision of world leaders who apparently rely on shoddy intelligence. No one wants to underestimate a tyrant's appetite for acquiring a nuclear bomb, but neither do our men and women in uniform wish to see their comrades killed in Iraq on the basis of misleading or manipulated information. When the public was asked to abandon UN inspections and resort instead to war, it was on the basis on the imminence of Iraq's acquisition of weapons of mass destruction, and no such weapon is more horrifying than a nuclear bomb. You say you stand by your intelligence but the public cannot stand by you without a full and complete accounting. So far, both sides of our transatlantic alliance appear unwilling to tell the whole truth about how little we really knew when the order for war was given."

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